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Notes on the Rhode Island Flora.

BY J. F. COLLINS.

Since the publication of the "Plants of R. I." in 1888, many additions have been reported to the author, Mr. Bennett, although it is safe to say there has been very little active work on our State flora since that date. Upon determining the specimens collected by me the past season I find more than 35 species among them not previously recorded as occurring in Rhode Island. Added to these an equal number detected in the two preceding years, and we have a list of 70 species (and varieties) collected by a person who has but a few hours each week to devote to botanical work. Does this not point to "Little Rhody" as still being an interesting field for the local collector?

The greater part of the specimens were collected within the city limits, but little time being found in which to take trips of any length outside. Consequently, as might be expected, the wastes have yielded a large portion, many of which have not fully demonstrated their ability to persist, while of others only single plants have been found. It is my object in these brief notes to mention only some of the more interesting additions and only those collected by me either alone or in company with others. All are represented by specimens in my herbarium, and where duplicates were obtained they have usually been placed in Brown University Herbarium also. Unless otherwise noted all species were collected in this city in 1892.

Nasturtium lacustre, A. Gray, 1890.

Lepidium intermedium, A. Gray, with *L. Virginicum* and *L. ruderale*.

Gypsophila muralis, L., at one station in the southwestern portion of the city, where it has been slowly spreading for the past three seasons, but is still confined to a very limited area in a sandy field.

Lychnis diurna, Sibth., a peculiar form which Dr. Robinson informs me is known to European seedmen as *Melandrium diurnum*, var. *crassifolium*. Wastes only.

Stellaria graminea, L., quite common in grassy places along roadsides, and similar situations. 1884, 1891, etc.

The station for *Lotus corniculatus* (Bot. Gaz. xvii., 229) from which only three specimens were obtained in June was obliterated soon afterwards.

Glycyrrhiza lepidota, Nutt., Cove Lands, J. L. Bennett, 1891; G. H. Leland and J. F. Collins, 1892.

Vicia hirsuta (L.) Koch., a dozen or more specimens obtained. Leland and Collins.

Astilbe Japonica, Miq., seemingly well established and spreading at one station, 1890,-'91,-'92.

Epilobium adenocaulon, Haussk., appears to have escaped detection until July 9th. Since that date I have found it at several stations about the city. At suburban Elmwood it seems to be a common species, particularly on the east shore of Mashapaug pond, where no other *Epilobium* was noticed. In some woods near the pond it grows with *E. coloratum*, Muhl. It has undoubtedly been heretofore confounded with the latter species.

Scandix Pecten-veneris, L., 1890, J. F. C.; 1892, Leland and Collins.

Symphoricarpos racemosus, Michx.; at one station for several years. Possibly an escape.

Galium tricorne, With., several specimens; W. W. Bailey, Leland, Collins.

Grindelia squarrosa, Dunal, and *Artemisia Ludoviciana*, Nutt. Growing together, abundant and apparently well established on wastes.

The latter first noticed at another station while collecting with Prof. Bailey.

Carduus nutans, L. Since 1890, G. Bailey, Bennett, Leland, Collins.

Mentha Canadensis, L., var. *glabrata*, Benth. Shore of Mashapaug Pond.

Dracocephalum parviflorum, Nutt. A single thrifty plant which has fruited abundantly in a place where it is not likely to be destroyed. W. W. Bailey, Collins.

Stachys annua, L. Wastes at one station.

Stachys Germanica, L. Wastes, 1890, G. Bailey, Collins.

This has not to my knowledge been detected since.

Amarantus blitoides, Wats., several times on wastes.

Juncus Canadensis, J. Gay, var. *coarctatus*, Engelm. Wet shores, etc. Elmwood, 1890-91-92; Benedict pond, 1892. Quite abundant at both these stations.

Sagittaria natans, Mx. var. (?) *gracillima*, Wats. In the summer of 1889, while canoeing and collecting on the Ten Mile river above the old Hunt's Grain Mills, in E. Providence, R. I., I noticed large patches of a plant whose long, narrow, delicate leaves floated from 1-3 feet of their length on the surface of the water. Paddling a little farther I soon detected the flowers and obtained a few good specimens. In examining the plants later in the day I was unable to determine the species from any book at hand, and they were temporarily pigeon-holed. Before an opportunity occurred to again look them over, the 6th edition of Gray's Manual appeared, in which the above-named variety was described. This proved to fit my specimens, and the following season I obtained more and better ones, but without fruit, although the plants were abundant.

The river at the place mentioned has been generally considered as the boundary between Massachusetts and Rhode Island, but according to the latest topographical map (surveyed in 1888) the river flows wholly within the borders of the latter State after once entering at Lebanon, yet nowhere north of Hunt's Mills is it more than a quarter of a mile from Massachusetts. Specimens are in the Brown University and Gray Herbaria.

Potamogeton pulcher, Tuck. Found to be one of the commonest pond weeds in many of the pond holes on Block Island. W. W. Bailey and Collins. When collected it was supposed to be the first record for Rhode Island. It was, however, reported from Wakefield in 1890 (to Mr. Bennett).

Najas gracillima (A. Br.) Morong. Benedict pond, also elsewhere by other collectors.

Carex virescens, Muhl. var. *costata*, Dewey, 1890.

C. laxiflora, Lam., var. *varians*, Bailey. Cumberland, 1886; Providence, 1892.

C. laxiflora, Lam., var. *latifolia*, Boott., 1891.

C. echinata, Murray, var. *angustata*, Bailey.

Eragrostis Purshii, Schrader. Abundant along the railway and in woods at Elmwood, R. I., 1884-90-92.

Festuca elatior, L., and also the variety *pratensis*, Gray. Grassy places, 1889-91-92.
PROVIDENCE, R. I.

A Preliminary List of the Plants found in the Ridgewood Water Supply of the City of Brooklyn, King's County, N. Y.

BY SMITH ELY JELLIFFE.

Since the 1st of November, 1892, weekly examinations have been made of the plant life in the drinking water of Brooklyn. The water was taken from the tap of the third-story of a house near Prospect Park. One day in each week it was allowed to run for 24 hours through a filter. The residue was then collected and examined during the week and then kept in glass vials for future comparative study. The following list is a preliminary one, the research being intended to cover the space of one year.

SCHIZOMYCETES.

The examination for bacteria was only partial and purely experimental, Esmarchsproll's were made once each month, but the isolation of the various colonies was not completely carried out.

Bacillus fluorescens, liquefaciens. This bacterium has been prevalent in every month's supply thus far examined.

Bacillus fluorescens, non liquefaciens. Less frequent than the first, still constant.

Bacillus violaceus. Once only observed.

Bacillus subtilis, Cohn. Present throughout the time of the examinations.

CYANOPHYCEÆ.

Oscillaria limosa, Ag. Found throughout February.

Oscillaria Frælichii, Kütz. Infrequent.

O. aeruigeneo-cærulea, Kütz. December 17, 1892.

CHLOROPHYCEÆ.

Scenedesmus caudatus, Corda. Frequent throughout the six months.

S. dimorphus, Kütz. January 18th.

Pediastrum Boryanum (Turp.) Mengh. November, March.